

AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0023] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] Alternatively, the sandwich product 10 may be formed by placing a filler material 28, such as a precooked meat product (e.g., sausage), within an uncooked bread-like material 26 (i.e., uncooked or partially cooked dough), positioning the combined filler material 28 and uncooked or partially cooked bread material 26 in a heatable container 12, sealing the container 12, and applying heat to the container for a period of time sufficient to cook the bread material 26 to form the sandwich product 10. By way of example, a ~~performed~~ preformed and appropriately sized portion of pita bread that has been substantially cooked to a state of doneness is filled with a mixture of ground sausage in a thickened base, such as tomato sauce. The filled pita bread portion is positioned in a container made of tin or other suitable metal or alloy and the container is sealed by known methods. The container is then heated to 350° F for ten minutes until the pita bread and filler material are sufficiently cooked and combined.

Please replace paragraph [0028] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] A sandwich prepared in accordance with Example 1 above is formed having dimensions suitable for being received in a container 12 (FIGS. 1, 3 or container 80 shown in FIG. 4) sized for dispensing from a vending machine that is structured for vending containerized beverages. The container 12 is sealed in a known manner to enclose the sandwich product 10 within the container 12.

Please replace paragraph [0029] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] In an alternative embodiment of the invention shown in FIG. 3 2, the container 12 may be filled with disparate food products while maintaining the dimensions 24

(height and circumference, for example) of the container 12 for dispensing from a vending machine structured to vend containerized beverages. Thus, by way of example only, the container 12 may comprise a cylindrical portion 14, a bottom 16 seal to the cylindrical portion 14 and a top 18 that is affixed to the cylindrical portion 14 in a manner that provides separation of all or a portion of the top 18 from the cylindrical portion 14 to provide access to the interior 22 of the container 12. An opening mechanism 20 is provided to remove the top 18 from the cylindrical portion 14.

Please replace paragraph [0037] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0037] The container 12 shown in FIG. 3 comprises a first compartment 40 that may be equal in area or, as shown in FIG. 3, smaller in area than a second compartment 42. The first compartment 40 comprises a cylindrical portion 48, a bottom 50 and a top 52 that may be separable from the cylindrical portion 48 by an opening mechanism 54. The first compartment contains a food product 56 that is different from the food product 58 contained in the second compartment 42. Likewise, the second compartment 42 comprises a cylindrical portion 60, a bottom 62 and a top 64 that may be separable from the cylindrical portion 60 by an opening mechanism 66. Notably, the compartments 40, ~~44~~ 42 may each be structured with different opening mechanisms as previously described herein.

Please replace paragraph [0042] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] Alternatively as shown in FIG. 4, the lid ~~84~~ 94 may have an interior space 100 that may be made separable from the main food product-enclosing compartment 82 by, for example, a removable partition member 102. Thus, the interior space 100 of the lid 94 may be employed as a separate compartment of the container 80 to retain a disparate food product 104 therein. As shown by way of example only, the food

product 104 contained in the lid 94 is a stack of potato chips. However, the disparate food product 104 may be any number of food product items as previously described, including but not limited to savory snack products, nuts, potato or corn chips, pretzels, cookies, crackers, candy, gelatinous desserts, dairy-based desserts or condiments, including cream cheese.